

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 01335 221140Z
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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP (CLIFFORD, CLARK M) CY TU GR

SUBJ: CLIFFORD STATEMENT AFTER MEETING GENERAL SANCAR

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF STATEMENT CLARK M. CLIFFORD, PRESIDENT
CARTER'S SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE, MADE TO JOURNALISTS AFTER
MEETING TUES 22 FEB WITH GEN. SEMIH SANCAR, CHIEF OF
TURKISH GENERAL STAFF.

(BEGIN TEXT)

GENERAL SANCAR AND MY ASSOCIATES AND I, TOGETHER WITH HIS
SENIOR OFFICERS, HAVE HAD AN EXTREMELY MEANINGFUL AND
EFFECTIVE DISCUSSION.

AS NATO ALLIES, IT IS NECESSARY FROM TIME TO TIME THAT FRIENDS
INFORM EACH OTHER OF CONDITIONS THAT EXIST SO THAT WE CAN
MAINTAIN THE STRENGTH OF THE NATO DEFENSE LINE. SINCE THE
CREATION OF NATO ALMOST 30 YEARS AGO, TURKEY HAS OCCUPIED
AN EXTREMELY IMPORTANT FUNCTION IN PROTECTING THE SOUTHERN
ANCHOR OF NATO. THE UNITED STATES HAS ALWAYS RESPECTED
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AND APPRECIATED THE CONTRIBUTION THAT TURKEY HAS MADE TO
NATO.

IN THE OPERATION OF NATO IT IS NECESSARY FROM TIME TO TIME
THAT NATIONS HAVE ARMS AGREEMENTS AND UNDERSTANDINGS SO
THAT THE FULL STRENGTH OF NATO CAN BE MAINTAINED. IN
THIS REGARD WE HAD A VERY FRANK AND CANDID DISCUSSION OF
THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND TURKEY.

IT IS THE JOINT HOPE OF BOTH SIDES TO THE DISCUSSION THAT THE
AGREEMENTS THAT WE CONTEMPLATE AND THE WORDS OF FRIENDSHIP
SPOLKEN WILL HELP TO CREATE A CONTINUING RELATIONSHIP
THAT WILL LEAD EVEN TO CLOSER RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE
TWO COUNTRIES.

THIS CONSTITUTES A BRIEF REPORT UPON WHAT HAS TAKEN PLACE
TODAY. GENERAL SANCAR HAS VERY GRACIOUSLY AND COURTEOUSLY
INVITED MY COLLEAGUES AND ME TO LUNCHEON, AND I HAVE NO
DOUBT BUT WHAT OUR FRIENDLY DISCUSSION WILL CONTINUE. THANK
YOU VERY MUCH. (END TEXT)
AUSTIN

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